31st January 1936]

Proposals for the bifurcation of the district boards in the Ceded districts.

* 655 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether there are proposals to bifurcate the district boards of the Ceded districts?

A.—No. Attention is however invited to the Press Communiqué, dated 15th January 1936, regarding bifurcation of district boards.

Postponement of the election of President of the District Board, South Kanara.

* 656 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the elections to the District Board of South Kanara were held;

(*b*) whether a meeting of the elected Members was convened to elect the President;

(*c*) if not, why it has not been held and at whose instance and under what provision of law has the election of the President been held up; and

(*d*) whether the Collector of South Kanara has reported against the holding of the election of the President; if so, whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Elections to all but one circle were held in November 1935.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government in consultation with the Collector, considered it desirable to postpone the election till all the seats on the Board had been filled and instructed the Collector accordingly.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know what the reasons are that made the Government not to hold the election to the presidentship?" 11-15 a.m.

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"The Government felt that the vacancy in one of the circles should also be filled before the election is held."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether an ordinary meeting of the board has not been called to transact ordinary business?"

The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"The hon. Member is no doubt aware that an ordinary meeting was called for before this vacancy was filled up."

Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—"May I know whether it is the intention of the Government that in every case when even one seat remains to be filled, the presidential election should be postponed, or is it only in special contingencies?"